

gifted leader and renewed the company's core values of safety, dedication to excellence in customer service, the growth and development of Graniterock people, honesty and integrity, continuous improvement, and lifelong learning. As a result, the company was awarded the United States Department of Commerce's Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 1992, the first winner of the California State Quality Award, the Construction Innovation Forum's NOVA Award in 1994, and consistently ranked in the top 25 of Fortune Magazine's 100 Best Places to Work.

Among other charitable pursuits, Bruce maintained a special interest in supporting education in the Pajaro Valley, where he was instrumental in the creation of the Committee for Good School Governance. He realized that his role as a leader to his employees expanded far beyond the asphalt of the company's driveway and went through the streets of the city, seeking to make a better life for all.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak on behalf of the entire House, when I offer the nation's deepest sympathies to Bruce's wife, Rose Ann, his daughter Marianne, his son Arthur, his brother Stephen, and his extended Graniterock family. He was a hero and a leader that sought to change the world one rock at a time.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH
ANNIVERSARY OF RIPLEY, OHIO

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th anniversary of a village that sits quietly on the banks of the Ohio River: Ripley, Ohio.

James Poage settled on 1,000 acres there in 1804, not yet aware of all the natural advantages that the mighty Ohio River and its nearby creeks would provide. Soon after, Poage and his family would name the town Staunton. But in 1816, it was renamed Ripley—after an American officer of the War of 1812, General Eleazar Wheelock Ripley. General Ripley would later serve as a member of Congress.

Ripley might be best known these days as the site of the annual Ohio Tobacco Festival, but those who know Ripley's history understand the importance that this little town played in the fight against slavery.

Mr. Speaker, many of the early residents of Ripley shared a hatred of slavery, understanding that all men are created equal. Some risked their lives and property in ferrying enslaved people across the Ohio River to freedom in the North.

Threats were made against compassionate and courageous villagers such as the Rev. John Rankin and the inventor/entrepreneur John Parker (a former slave), but the words and actions of these members of the Underground Railroad established Ripley's reputation as a lighthouse of liberty.

Ripley's charm is evident in its many stately homes, delightful restaurants, and interesting antique stores, but fascinating tourist attractions such as the Rankin House State Memorial museum and the John P. Parker Museum are the true legacy of this village.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the remarkable village of Ripley, Ohio, and I hope they also will join me in commending this community for its historic role in the battle against the sin of slavery.

A TRIBUTE TO EDWARD AND
VERGENE DONOVAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Edward Donovan, and his wife, Vergene Donovan, on the special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. This special day will take place on August 24, 2012, and they will be celebrating this landmark occasion on August 26th in Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Donovan met by chance in southern California in July of 1942. A 19-year-old Edward approached a pretty 18-year-old girl named Vergene on the street and asked if he recognized her from Iowa. She confirmed she was from Spirit Lake, and the two spent the rest of the afternoon getting to know each other over soda at a nearby drug store. When Edward made it home that night, he told his best friend he had met the girl he wanted to spend the rest of his life with. Edward proposed to Vergene on their second date, and they have never looked back since saying "I do" in Long Beach, California on August 24, 1942.

After moving back to Iowa, Edward began work with a small fishing supply company known as Berkley and Company in 1950. Over his time with Berkley, Edward's creativity, passion and coordination helped lead the company to international expansion and dominance in the fishing industry. Edward would eventually leave Berkley as the Executive Officer of Operations in 1987. Meanwhile, Vergene discovered a strong passion for politics and continues to be involved with the Dickinson County Republican Party and Republican Women.

Edward and Vergene currently reside in rural Orleans, Iowa and have raised four children—Edward, Jim, DeEtte, and Scott. Their children have blessed them with nineteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. The Donovans continue to be an active and important part of their community and it is truly an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

Edward and Vergene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. I salute this lovely couple on their 70th year of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALABAMA
SCHOOL OF MATH AND SCIENCE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Alabama School of Math and Science,

which was recently named one of the best public high schools in the state of Alabama.

In May, Newsweek magazine scored the Alabama School of Math and Science, located in Mobile, 182nd among the nation's 1,000 high schools that are the most effective in turning out college-ready graduates. The school scored third in the state of Alabama.

The 220 students at the ASMS take college level courses, including Advanced Placement classes in chemistry, biology and art. The Alabama School of Math and Science will soon expand their curriculum to also include Advanced Placement American History and English 11.

Typically, 100 percent of the graduates of Alabama School of Math and Science go on to college with 92 percent of those graduates receiving scholarships. This is an amazing accomplishment which speaks well of both the dedication of the students, as well as the determination of the school's faculty to provide excellence in the classroom.

In 1989, the Alabama State Legislature established the Alabama School of Math and Science. Mrs. Ann Bedsole, then a Republican State Senator from Mobile, was the chief sponsor of the legislation. The idea for the school came from Senator Bedsole and other Mobile citizens who felt the community needed to create a school that could give back to the state. Each year, over 260 students enroll in the school. These students come from all 67 counties in the state of Alabama.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to extend my congratulations to school president Dr. Larry V. Turner, principal Ann Hilderbrandt, the teachers and other administrators and especially the students of the Alabama School of Math and Science. Their academic achievement is proof positive that Alabama schools and students are among the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF
KYLE AUSTIN AND ORELEE
CLEMENTS KIRBY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 60th wedding anniversary of Kyle Austin and Orelee Clements Kirby.

Mr. Kirby was born in Halls Chapel, Alabama on February 1, 1932 and Mrs. Kirby was born in Blue Mountain, Alabama, on November 30th the same year.

They were married on September 8, 1952 in Columbus, Mississippi and from there moved to Springfield, Massachusetts. They later moved where Mr. Kirby was stationed at Hickham Air Force Base, Tennessee, and to Florida. They currently reside in Anniston, Alabama.

The Kirbys have raised four children, and have 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. They will have an event in Anniston on August 25th to celebrate this milestone.

I salute this lovely couple on the 60th year of their life together and join their family in honoring them on this special occasion.